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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 175057

16
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:MDSTERNBERG:JEN
APPROVED BY NEA/IAI:HHSAUNDERS
NEA/IAI:WBSMITH
NEA/ARN:ARDAY
S/S: FVORTIZ
---------- 059052
R 242250Z JUL 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175057

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, IS, SY

SUBJECT: ASAD CRITICISM OF AMB. TOON'S REMARKS

REF: (A) DAMASCUS 2767; (B) TEL AVIV 4670

1. DEPT. CONCURS WITH REF (B) THAT AMB. TOON'S PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIAL'S STATEMENT COULD NOT REALISTICALLY PROMPT ASAD'S CRITICISM.

2. PLEASE CONVEY TO ASAD THE TEXT OF AMB. TOON'S STATEMENT, WHICH FOLLOWS: QUOTE MR. PRESIDENT: I HAVE THE HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOU THE LETTER ACCREDITING ME AS THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY ALSO TO CONVEY TO YOU AND TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF ISRAEL THE SINCERE GOOD WISHES OF PRESIDENT FORD AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

YOUR NATION AND MINE -- MR. PRESIDENT -- HAVE ENJOYED A
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PAGE 02 STATE 175057

RELATIONSHIP OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING FROM THE VERY

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

INCEPTION OF MODERN ISRAEL. BUT IN A LARGER SENSE THIS FRIENDSHIP IS BASED NOT ONLY ON THE NEW BUT ON THE ANCIENT -- THE ETHICAL HERITAGE WE SHARE WHICH HAS ITS ROOTS IN THE EARLIEST HISTORY OF YOUR PEOPLE.

THE POLICIES OF MY NATION, AS OF YOURS, ARE FOUNDED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN COMPASSION, HUMAN DIGNITY AND HUMAN FREEDOM. MY TASK HERE WILL IN NO SMALL MEASURE BE CONCERNED WITH SEEKING A COOPERATIVE DEDICATION TO THOSE VALUES SO THAT ALL PEOPLES MAY ENJOY WHAT WE ENSHRINE.

IT IS WITH A SENSE OF HUMILITY THAT I TAKE UP MY DUTIES HERE. THE TIMES ARE GRAVE AND THE TASKS OUR NATIONS MUST FACE ARE DIFFICULT. AS BEFITS RELATIONS BETWEEN MATURE PEOPLES, WE DO NOT ALWAYS AGREE ON EVERY ISSUE. BUT WE ARE TOGETHER ON THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE -- THE NEED FOR PEACE IN THIS AREA AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. YOUR PEOPLE AND MY PEOPLE ARE DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL. I WILL DO WHAT I CAN -- AS THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR -- TO BRING THIS ABOUT, AND I AM SURE THAT IN THIS ENDEAVOR I WILL HAVE THE FULL COOPERATION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE. END QUOTE.

3. YOU SHOULD NOT MAKE AN ISSUE OF THIS BUT SIMPLY ASK THAT IT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ASAD. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
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